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A plan for every size herd

STANDARD DHIA

OWNER SAMPLER

WEIGH-A-DAY-A-MONTH

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Dairy-Herd-Improvement Letter

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INTERPRETATION OF DHIA RULES 3 AND 27

DHIA Rule 3, Identification of Animals, reads:

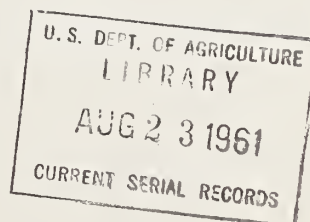
"Every dairy animal in DHIA herds must be positively identified and recorded in the owner's herd book within 60 days after entering the herd by birth or purchase. A herd registry page is provided for this purpose. Cows on test must be permanently identified with either (1) registration number if registered, or (2) uniform series eartags as used in DHIA disease eradication and artificial insemination. (State code, 1-, 2-, or 3-letter prefix, 4 digits.)

"Tattoo numbers or branded numbers, private eartag or neckchain numbers, or band numbers are acceptable as temporary or secondary identification until the animals enter the milking herd."

The American Dairy Science Association (ADSA) Records Committee interprets this rule as follows:

"All animals in the dairy herd must be permanently and positively identified in order for the herd to be on Standard DHIA test. All herds in which the dairyman does not identify with registration numbers or uniform series eartags as used in DHIA, disease eradication and artificial insemination, should not be considered as DHIA herds, but should be given the same recognition as Owner-Sampler herds.

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DHIA Rule 27, Fraudulent Practices, reads:

"Any practice that is intended to create or does create any abnormal percentage of butterfat or an abnormal yield of milk is in violation of DHIA rules. "

The ADSA Records Committee interprets this rule as follows:

"The DHIA monthly test is a sampling of production, feeding, and management for the current testing period and covers an exact 24-hour period. Any deviation from the regular daily routine with the intent to change test day results should be considered a fraudulent practice.

"If there is any evidence of malpractice or manipulation on the part of a DHIA member or his employees, the DHIA supervisor is required to report the evidence and circumstances to the local DHIA Board of Directors, the County Agricultural Agent, or the State Extension Dairyman. "

In regard to the feeding of thyroprotein to cows on DHIA test, the ADSA Records Committee concurs with the recommendation of the Testing Committee of the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association (PDCA), "that the feeding of thyroprotein and similar feed stimulants is an infraction of Rule 27. " Therefore, the feeding of thyroprotein to herds on Standard DHIA test is prohibited.